



March 2016

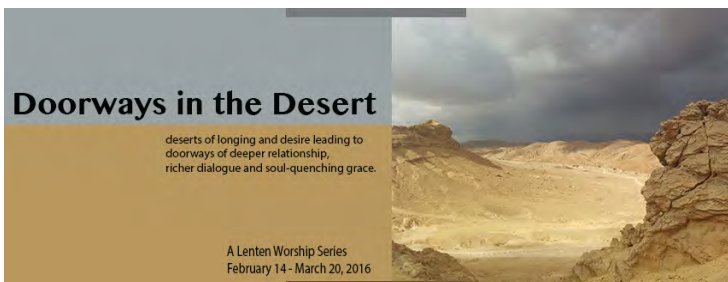
We are in the middle of the season of Lent. This year, our church family has been invited to practice following spiritual disciplines throughout the season: listening, dreaming, fasting, resting, conversing, rejoicing. I hope you have picked up the Lenten devotional booklet, "Doorways in the Desert," and had some successes with the first three disciplines of listening, dreaming, and fasting. If not, please do not give up. We still have three to four more weeks to go until Easter.

On March 6th, there will be a celebration of Holy Communion after the week of fasting. You are encouraged to fast from Saturday through Sunday morning. If you can, try all day or dinner fasting on Saturday. Or, you can just skip your breakfast on Sunday. I am sure the communion that day will have a very special meaning to those who did fast. There will be more than just sweets on the table during the Coffee Hour, so plan to stay longer after the worship service. The celebration of food and fellowship will continue into the evening as our church family comes back for "Tastes of Home," an all-church potluck at 5:00pm. Contact the church office if you have not signed up or just show up for the fun event. When Methodists gather, there is always more than enough food to share!

Another spiritual discipline offered to our church family this year is Threshold Groups, small group opportunities. Currently, three groups are meeting, all led by our clergy, on Sundays from 2:45-3:45pm, Tuesdays from 7:00-8:00pm, and Wednesdays from 6:15-7:15pm. Participants in a covenant relationship seek to grow in their faith through group activities, such as praying, scripture reading, sharing with one another. If you missed the opportunity to participate in one of the life groups, please look for it in the fall, since Threshold Groups will be offered again.

During this period of spiritual preparation for Easter, we are to be more intentional about practicing spiritual disciplines, joined by other Christian believers around the world. The spiritual disciplines are not only for spiritual giants but also for ordinary people who have jobs and family responsibilities. They are to be exercised in the midst of our daily living. As we continue to practice this holy season's spiritual disciplines of listening, dreaming, fasting, resting, conversing, and rejoicing, may we be able to move beyond surface living into deeper relationships with God and others. May God continue to walk with us on our pilgrim journey until we finally arrive at Easter!

Pastor Ouk-Yean



Rev. Dr. J. Barrie Shepherd to Preach and Teach on April 3

J. Barrie Shepherd, a native of Scotland and graduate of Yale Divinity School, is a Presbyterian pastor and author of sixteen books of prose and poetry in the area of religious studies. He is known for his preaching skills and was, for many years, senior pastor of First Presbyterian Church in New York City. This church boasts a long line of illustrious preachers, from Jonathan Edwards in the early 18th century to Harry Emerson Fosdick in the 20th.

He has preached and lectured at Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Cornell, Dartmouth, Duke and other universities and seminaries. He has also preached in distinguished pulpits in the USA, UK, Europe, and Africa. He has served in leadership capacities on the national level for the Presbyterian Church. He and his wife now reside in a Maine retirement community where he spends his time guest preaching, teaching, writing, and playing the euphonium in local musical ensembles.



In addition to preaching on Sunday, April 3, he will be leading Kaleidoscope on "The Process of Writing." He will also be available for book signing. For each book that is sold, five dollars will be given to the mission committee's April emphasis, Heifer International.

Two local Presbyterian churches will be hosting him for Scottish teas, accompanied by readings and book signings: First Presbyterian Church of Deerfield at 3:00pm, on Saturday, April 2; and First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights at 4:00pm, on Sunday, April 3.

Healing Service

The first of our periodic Healing Services will be held on Sunday afternoon, March 13, 4-5:00, in the main floor Chapel. All are welcome to this gathering, a time of quiet prayer and reflection.

Worship Schedule: Sundays at 9:30am

"Doorways in the Desert" - Lenten Sermon Series continues

March 6: "Resting in the Desert?"

Mark 6:30-44

Spiritual Practice: Resting

March 13: "Voices of Challenge, Voices of Change"

John 4:1-42

Spiritual Practice: Conversing

March 20: "Journeying through the Gate"

Palm Sunday

Spiritual Practice: Rejoicing

March 27: "From the Desert to the Garden"

Easter - worship services at 9:30am and 11:00am

Join us as we celebrate the ultimate promise of abundant and eternal life.

Holy Week Observances

Maundy Thursday, March 24

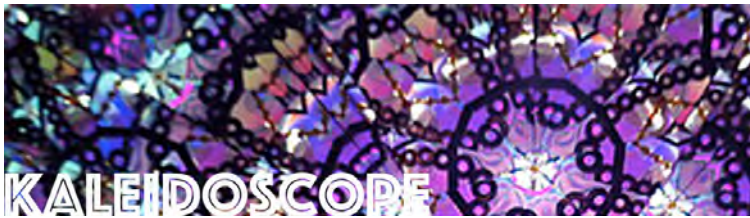
"Prayer Stations and Communion"

The sanctuary will be open for personal reflection from 5 - 7:30pm. Prayer stations will be available to guide and inspire you. Communion will be celebrated in the Chapel at 5:00pm, 6:00pm, and 7:00pm.

Good Friday, March 25

"The Darkest Doorway"

Join us for this culminating service of Holy Week as we reflect upon the meaning and power of the Cross. Worship will begin with silence and prayer at 7:30pm, and conclude around 8:30pm.



Kaleidoscope continues with the Lenten series presented by Rev. Paul Palmer.

*Intrigue among the Royals:
A Biblical Exposé of the Life and Times of Saul, David & Solomon*

March 6

“The Throne Succession Story – How Solomon became King” from II Samuel is a masterpiece of Old Testament writing. This will be the focus of our Kaleidoscope discussion in a series called “INTRIGUE AMONG THE ROYALS: A Biblical Exposé of the Life and Times of Israel’s Kings.” Join Paul Palmer for conversation about how “wise” Solomon was in having 700 wives... and other strange discoveries about his rule in 10th century BC Palestine.

March 13

Saul, David and Solomon were the great kings of the Hebrew people’s United Monarchy. Until it fell apart... thanks to a battle over who should be Solomon’s successor and the continuing rift between Israel and Judah. Join us for this study led by Paul Palmer entitled “INTRIGUE AMONG THE ROYALS: A Biblical Exposé of the Life and Times of Israel’s Kings.” We will hear about kings you never heard of before, plus some of the scandal attached to King Ahab and Jezebel.

March 20

The “Empire” that belonged to the rule of Kings David and Solomon becomes a thing of the past, as two little countries known as Judah and Israel struggle to exist. This Kaleidoscope discussion concludes the series led by Paul Palmer: “INTRIGUE AMONG THE ROYALS: A Biblical Exposé of the Life and Times of Israel’s Kings.” The Golden Age of the Prophets, sadly, has little effect in preserving their kingdoms, with Israel being conquered in 721 BC, and then Judah itself being destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar in 586 – totally ending the era of the Hebrew Kings.

Easter Flower Orders

Orders for Easter flowers are due on March 7th! Flowers that will be available to purchase in memory of or in honor of your loved one(s) are lilies, daffodils, tulips, hydrangeas, and hyacinths. They will be displayed on the chancel on Easter Sunday before you take them home. Forms for ordering are available in the church office, or there will be one in the Sunday bulletin on March 6th that you may complete and drop in the offering plate or in the church office.



Clean Water Delivery Ministry

Many congregations of the Methodist Church in Kenya are located in rural areas that are prone to drought and/or have no easy access to clean water. Many residents are forced to walk several kilometers to access clean water or they must take water from nearby rivers or streams that are not very clean. The lack of access to clean water creates great hardships for many families and leads to serious health complications for children and other vulnerable populations.

Since 2008, The Clean Water Delivery Ministry has helped construct three water sedimentation tanks to help supply clean water in its immediate community. They are currently working to create new water sources in ten Kenyan communities. Five communities will receive a newly drilled borehole on the grounds of the local Methodist Church and another five Methodist congregations will receive funds to purchase guttering and tanks that will collect rainwater to be stored for drinking.

Our March Missions fundraising supports the lifesaving work of the Clean Water Delivery Ministry.



Nurturing Spiritual Formation in the Local Church

The Northern Illinois Conference Spiritual Formation Committee is pleased to offer this 5-session series for laity. Our mission is to train leaders from local congregations in prayer practices and in leadership skills for convening spiritual formation groups within their local church.

Experienced leaders will train two to three laity from each of several local churches. The maximum group size will be no more than 15-20 participants. Each session will focus on different spiritual practices and will include an experiential component to help deepen those spiritual practices. In addition, strategies for convening small groups with a spiritual formation focus will be presented and practiced. It is our expectation that participants will take what they have learned back to their church communities and provide leadership in the area of spiritual formation. Print resources and mentoring support will be available to each of the participants as they discern how to incorporate what they have learned into the ministry and community of their congregation.

The program consists of 18 hours of training - one 6-hour session and four 3-hour sessions. The sessions convene once per month for five months. The cost is \$100 per participant for the entire training. The five sessions will be held at FUMCAH on the following Saturdays: April 9 (9:00am-3:00pm, lunch included); May 14 (9:00am-12:00pm); June 11 (9:00am-12:00pm); July 16 (9:00am-12:00pm); August 13 (9:00am-1:30pm, lunch included).

For further information, please contact Barbara Miller (773-972-6623, bmiller910@sbcglobal.net) or Judy Pohlman (847-354-8015, pohlman.j@comcast.net).

FaithLink

Beginning during this Lenten season and continuing through spring, FaithLink will meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month – after worship in Room 32. FaithLink is a discussion based adult education experience with all topics coming from current newsworthy events. Recent topics have included religious diversity and helicopter parenting. This new schedule will allow people to have more time for fellowship one week alternated with more time for discussion the next. As always, child care and programming is provided for youngsters. All adults are invited.

Good News from DBSA

Our FUMCAH Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA) chapter sponsored a first-time ever all-day workshop titled “Living Successfully With A Mood Disorder” on January 23. All twenty slots were filled within the first week of offering it. Mood disorders refers to various types of depression, anxiety, and bipolar disorder. Participants included members of the community, support group participants, and the congregation. The workshop’s goals are to educate people living with a mood disorder and their supporters on the different types of mood disorders, on how to get help, and helping participants develop their individual recovery and wellness plan. It was a fantastic day! We plan to offer it again this year. If you know of those who could benefit from this workshop, please have them contact Leah at mrsn@comcast.net.

Meals on Wheels

FUMCAH has again volunteered to deliver Meals on Wheels during the month of April. This program not only helps the homebound, the disabled, and the economically challenged of our community but also assists those who may have just had a new knee or hip and do not have family around to help. The meals are picked up at the Lutheran Home in Arlington Heights and are delivered between 11:00am and 1:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deliveries are made in Arlington Heights, Buffalo Grove, and Palatine. If you can assist with this project, please call the Guilfords at 847-392-5512.

Faith Community Homes Organ Concert

Faith Community Homes invites you to enjoy an afternoon of beautiful music on Sunday, March 6. Our popular annual organ concert, featuring local church organists, will be held at 4:00pm, at All Saints Lutheran Church, 630 South Quentin Road in Palatine. A free-will offering will benefit the families served by Faith Community Homes.

Faith Community Homes (FCH) is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing rental



housing assistance and support services for financially-disadvantaged working families in the community. Each family is guided by two trained, volunteer mentors under the guidance of a case manager. The goal of the program is to move families toward greater financial stability and independence through development of financial management and other life skills, education, and better employment opportunities.

FUMCAH Service Weekend

Get Ready! The FUMCAH Missions committee is sponsoring an entire weekend of opportunities to serve our community. Sign-ups begin Sunday, March 6. Please stop by the Missions table after church for more information about all of the many volunteer opportunities, specific age requirements, times and locations of the events. We have opportunities organized for different ages and abilities including food packing, singing, art, baking, cleaning and sorting! We hope to have every member in service during our first FUMCAH Service Weekend! Please contact Wendy Dunnington (wadunnington@gmail.com or 847-342-1956) with questions.

Saturday April 30

WINGS Program, 9:00am-noon, Sorting Clothing in Elk Grove Village
Feed My Starving Children Packing Event, 2-4:00pm in Schaumburg
FUMCAH Playground and Ravine Clean-up and Gardening
Choir Visit, Luther Village

Sunday, May 1

Decorate Thank You Cards for Police Officers, Coffee Hour at FUMCAH
Baked Goods Donations for Police Officers, drop off at FUMCAH
9:00am-4:00pm

Spring Super Sale Sorting at FUMCAH, 1-4:00pm
WINGS Program, 2-5:00pm, Cleaning Off-Site
American Red Cross Blood Drive at FUMCAH

How will you get involved?

ACT 2 Event

The next ACT 2 event will be a game night on Saturday, March 5, at 7:00pm, at the home of Jeff and Peggy Hunt, 130 North Gibbons in Arlington Heights. ACT 2 is a social group primarily for those in their 40's and 50's. Please bring an appetizer and beverage to share, and if you have a fun game, bring that also. Please RSVP to Laura Hynes at 312-835-3291.

Save the Date for Vacation Bible School - July 11-14, 2016!



Sunday Morning Crossroads = Fisher's Club

Crossroads, our ministry of fellowship and programs for 4th, 5th and 6th Graders, is expanding with a new weekly opportunity. The Sunday Morning Fisher's Club began on February 21. In order to strengthen the friendship and discipleship among our Crossroads kids, we have added this option. Meeting every Sunday in Room 42, activities will vary from week to week but will include Bible study, art, table games, movies, mission activities, and surprises. Sharon Nudo, founder and coordinator of the Fisher's Club, looks forward to welcoming the Crossroaders - and a few helpful youth and adult volunteers. If you would like to help, give Sharon or Pastor Lynn a call! One of the first things the Fisher's Club might do is plan our next Crossroads activity!

Easter Egg Hunt

Come to a true EASTER EGG HUNT on EASTER SUNDAY! Weather permitting, all children from toddlers through sixth graders can search for eggs after the first worship celebration (about 10:30am) on March 27 on the church campus. There will be separate hunting areas for pre-schoolers and older children. Easter eggs remind Christians of God's Easter surprise. Bring your children - grandchildren - neighbor's children! You won't be surprised at the joy they will find at church on Easter.



Senior High Mall Crawl

What is the Mall Crawl? FUMCAH Senior High Youth are invited to join us at Woodfield Mall's "Red Robin" restaurant on March 4 for dinner (on your own) followed by a mall scavenger hunt. Students will need to bring money for their meal and any other items that they might want to purchase. Youth will need to arrive at the restaurant at 5:00pm and the event will conclude at 9:00pm. Parents will need to arrange transportation from the mall no later than 9:00pm as that is when the mall closes. Youth RSVPs must be received no later than March 2. You can RSVP, or get more information, by emailing Pastor Will at will.ed.green@gmail.com.

Save the date for these exciting FUMCAHYouth Events:

April 3 FUMCAHYouth Bowling at Beverly Lanes
May 22 Confirmation Sunday
June 5 Baccalaureate Sunday
June 19-25 ASP
August 21 Youth Group Fall Kick-Off

Please note that there will be no youth programming March 23-27 for Spring Break.

World Day of Prayer Breakfast: "Receive Children, Receive Me"

Mark 10:14-15: "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs."



Church Women United invites you and your friends to attend this ecumenical event, which is celebrated annually in more than 170 countries.

The event will be held at 9:30am, on Friday, March 4, at the Southminster Presbyterian Church, 916 East Central Road in Arlington Heights. You will hear stories from Christian women of Cuba about tradition, wisdom, and experiences of God's profound love. The free-will offering will help meet the needs of families in Cuba and around the world who are victims of many forms of poverty, violence, and injustice. To make your \$5 breakfast reservation, please RSVP to Nancy Duel at 847-259-2793 or nduel@aol.com.

FUMCAHYouth Meeting Schedule

Upcoming Senior High Youth Group(s)
March 13 (FUMCAH)
April 10 (Panera)
April 24 (FUMCAH)
May 8 (Panera)
May 22 (FUMCAH)

Upcoming Junior High Youth Group(s)
March 2 March 9
March 16 March 30
April 6 April 13
April 20 April 27
May 4 May 11
May 18 May 25

Save the Date!

The UMW Super Spring Rummage Sale will be held on Friday, May 6, and Saturday, May 7. We have tentatively set our drop-off days for donations from Tuesday, April 26 through Tuesday, May 3. Hopefully this longer drop-off period will provide ample opportunities for our members to find a convenient time to drop off their donations. Please contact Jacqueline Raitano (847-749-3233 or JacquelineRaitano@yahoo.com) with any questions. Volunteer sign-ups will begin in April.



UMW eBay Sales

Did you know? If you have items that may sell better on eBay than they would at our Rummage Sale, we have a contact that we coordinate with to sell them for us. Valuable items that will sell for more with the eBay audience can be donated to UMW at any time during the year. Contact Jacqueline Raitano (847-749-3233 or JacquelineRaitano@yahoo.com) or Kathy Pollard (kpollard325@gmail.com or 847-398-1810) for more information.



Black History Month Book Discussion

You are invited to explore the changing battle lines of racism in America by reading *The New Jim Crow* by Michelle Alexander (\$12.80, amazon.com). Then please join us for a discussion group in March. Two dates to choose from:



Tuesday, March 8, 7:00pm, at FUMCAH; or Sunday, March 13, 12:15pm, at Southminster Church. *The New Jim Crow* examines how this country's "War on Drugs" has targeted African-Americans and impacted civil rights, state and federal budgets, fair policing, welfare, employment and more. It is clearly written and thought-provoking. Questions? Contact Jane Petrof at 847-651-5263 or janepetrof@gmail.com.

Faithful Citizen Workshop

Where: First United Methodist Church of
Arlington Heights

When: Sunday, April 3, 1-3:00pm

Faith in Place will be conducting an interactive, inspiring, informative, and fun workshop where people of all faiths can learn about the legislative process in Illinois, and discuss pending environmental policies. Through interactive exercises and presentations, this two-hour workshop will identify ways people of faith can engage in the advocacy process consistent with the tenets of their faith.

The Faithful Citizen Workshop will explain the eccentricities of Springfield politics in a manner that will help unravel some long-held mysteries associated with our state's legislative process. It is an engaging session that prepares anyone who plans to visit their state Senators and Representatives, as well as those who plan to journey to Springfield, such as on Thursday, April 21, for the Faith in Place Environmental Lobby Day. Attendees will become much more confident speaking about their faith and how it influences their convictions.

Because this will be an event for people from many faiths who want to make a difference, please sign up by contacting Rev. Booker Vance, Faith in Place Policy Director, at revvance@faithinplace.org, or Pastor Ouk-Yean at o.jueng@fumcah.com.

Congregation News

Linda Budde, long time member, died on January 28.

COMMUNITY RENEWAL SOCIETY Faith in Action

Racism in Illinois: How Can I Make a Difference?
Tuesday, April 19, from 7:00 to 9:00pm

Faith in Action and United Methodist Women will sponsor a panel discussion led by Lori Radder, Congregational Organizer of the Community Renewal Society, featuring Rev. Curtiss Paul DeYoung, Executive Director, and Luis Carrizales, Policy Associate, of the Community Renewal Society. Discussion will include what Racism is, how it operates, why we as Christians must combat it, and what we can do now to fight racism in Illinois. Rev. DeYoung will discuss the nature of structural racism and why we as Christians must participate in the struggle for racial justice. Luis Carrizales will present Community Renewal Society's platforms to create job opportunities for people with criminal records, police accountability, and the Fair Tax.

Please join us for this important discussion in the Sanctuary of the First United Methodist Church of Arlington Heights. The community and area churches are invited. Please invite your contact list to join us. Community Renewal Society would like to reach as many people as possible.

If child care is needed, please contact Sarah Hunter at shunter26@hotmail.com. For questions or more information, contact Allison Anderson (allison.anderson.1804@gmail.com).

Financial Report through December 2015

December Revenue: \$95,270 Year-to-date Revenue: \$805,806
December Expense: \$91,657 Year-to-date Expense: \$807,261
We have paid our 2015 \$83,160 annual apportionment in full!

Financial Report through January 2016

January Revenue: \$79,735
January Expense: \$70,887

2015 contribution statements were mailed out in early February.

If you have not yet filled out a pledge card, they are available in the pews or church office.

Electronic Funds Transfer is available – a great way to give regularly!

Contact Melinda in the church office with any financial questions or concerns.


Thank you very much for your good stewardship in 2015 and into 2016!



March 2016

or current resident

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